



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

14 ILLEGAL ALIENS ARRESTED WORKING AT WAL-MART DISTRIBUTION CENTER BY ICE SPECIAL AGENTS

Aliens worked for a Wal-Mart sub-contractor

NORTH PLATTE, Neb. — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents arrested 14 illegal aliens here yesterday who were working for a sub-contractor supplying workers for the Wal-Mart distribution center at 301 East State Farm Rd.

Those arrested were employed by Reich Installation Services Inc., and were installing shelving at the distribution center. Wal-Mart has cooperated fully with the ICE investigation.

“These arrests are part of ICE’s efforts to restore integrity to the nation’s legal immigration system,” said George Bailey, resident agent in charge of the ICE office in North Platte.

The aliens, all citizens of Mexico, were arrested without incident at the distribution center about 6 p.m. yesterday. ICE is holding 12 of them without bond pending their removal to Mexico. One of the 12 has requested a hearing before a federal immigration judge, and two had already been scheduled for a hearing before an immigration judge after being arrested for working illegally at a Wal-Mart distribution center in Philadelphia earlier this year.

The investigation into the circumstances of the illegal aliens’ employment is ongoing.

In March, the federal government reached a landmark \$11 million global civil settlement with Wal-Mart Stores Inc., arising out of an investigation into the alleged hiring of illegal aliens by independent contractors that provided cleaning services to Wal-Mart stores throughout the United States from 1998 through 2003. The civil settlement did not entail any admission of wrongdoing by Wal-Mart.

In addition, 12 corporations that provided contract janitorial services to Wal-Mart stores throughout the United States between 1998 and 2002, and were alleged to have actually employed illegal aliens, agreed to forfeit an additional \$4 million to the United States; they also agreed to enter corporate guilty pleas to criminal immigration charges.

More information about the settlement and forfeitures is available online at:
<http://www.ice.gov/graphics/news/newsreleases/articles/walmart031805.htm>

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.